GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:204
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2006
OVERAGED VESSELS /SHIPS IN SHIPPING CORPORATION OF INDIA
Bose Shri Subrata

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) vessels/ships have become overaged ;

(b) If so, the details thereof ;

(c) Whether the SCI propose to acquire/purchase more ships;

(d) If so, the details thereof ;

(e) Whether these proposals are pending with the Government for over four years ;

(f) If so, the reasons therefor ;

(g) Whether tenders had to be re-floated time and again by the SCI due to non-receipt of clearance from the Government;

(h) If so, the cost overruns as a result thereof so far ;

(i) Whether the Government would fix responsibility for this delay and loss to the Public Exchequer;

(j) If not, the reasons therefor; and

(k) The time by which the proposals are likely to be cleared ?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) & (b) : The average age of Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) fleet is 16.4 years compared to world fleet average age of 22 years.

(c) : Yes, Sir .

(d) : SCI as per Annual Plan 2006-07, proposes to acquire the following vessels:

Two Cellular Container vessels of 4,300 TEU Six LR-I Product tankers Six Handymax Bulk carriers. Two Capesize Bulk carriers Two 5,000 TEU Container vessels Four Aframax tankers Four Panamax Bulk carriers Two LR-II Product tankers Two MR Product tankers Five Offshore Supply Vessels. Out of the above, SCI has already placed orders for the following vessels :

Two 4,300 TEU Cellular Container vessels

Six LR-1 Product tankers

(e) to (g): No, Sir .

(h) to (j) : Do not arise

(k) : Since prescribed procedural formalities are to be observed, it may not be possible to give a definite time frame for giving clearance to the proposals mentioned in part

(d) of the question.